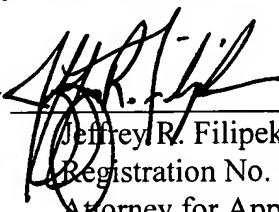


**REMARKS**

The above claim amendments are presented in order to remove multiple claim dependencies, so as to reduce the required filing fee.

Respectfully submitted,

Koji AKIYAMA et al.

By  \_\_\_\_\_  
Jeffrey R. Filipek  
Registration No. 41,471  
Attorney for Applicants

JRF/fs  
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021  
Telephone (202) 721-8200  
Facsimile (202) 721-8250  
April 29, 2005